Drip Irrigation Scheme

762. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the funds allocated to Orissa for Drip-irrigation Scheme during 1994-95 and 1995-96;

(b) whether the State Government has sought for increase in the allocation;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any report was sought from Orissa on the utilization of funds;

(e) if so, whether the State Government has submitted the report; and

(f) the additional funds allocated to the State Government for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) The funds allocated to the State during 1994-95 and 1995-96 were Rs. 249 lakhs and Rs. 80.25 lakhs respectively.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) No additional funds were allocated to the State.

Latur Victims

763. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Money for Latur victims siphoned off" appeared in 'Statesman', dated September 30, 1996;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government have information about the exact amount of donation received from Indian and foreign donors;

(c) whether the rehabilitation work is still in jeopardy and the Union as well as State Government have failed to take any concerete measures; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No, Sir. The Maharashtra Emergency Earthquake Rehabilitation Programme (MEERP) is being implemented in a phased manner, with well established procedures for reporting, monitoring and accounting. The Programme is reviewed at the highest levels in the State Government periodically. The World Bank Teams also regularly assess the progress of the Programme and utilisation of its credit.

(d) Does not arise.

Non-bailable Warrants

764. SHRI I.D. SWAMI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of non-bailable warrants issued by the Delhi Courts during 1996;

(b) the number of arrests made consequent to the issue of non-bailable warrants; and

(c) the number of cases in which the Higher Courts granted stay orders?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House

[Translation]

Public Distribution System in Hill Areas

765. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA' : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the storage and distribution system of consumer goods in the hilly areas of Uttar Pradesh is at the Gram Panchayat and Block levels;

(b) whether in the absence of adequate storage facility the people of hilly areas have to wait over a month for essential commodities like kerosene, sugar etc.; and

(c) if so, the arrangements being made to overcome this problem?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) Under the Public Distribution System only six commodities, viz. rice, wheat, sugar, edible oil, kerosene oil and soft coke are issued through the network of Fair Price Shops, numbering about 4.37 lakhs in the country, which are run by the co-operatives, State Civil Supplies Corporations or private retailers. These commodities are transported and stored at the State level by the Food Corporation of India, State Trading Corporation and oil companies and further storage transportation/ distribution within the State is entirely the responsibility of the State Governments.

(b) and (c). No specific complaint has been received about people of hilly areas having to wait over a month for PDS commodities.